

Meeting 11/16/05 SRC Subcommittee on Laser Safety

Present: Marc Hertlein (CSD), Richard Kadel (PHNSD), Larry McLouth (EHS), Robert Schoenlein (MSD), Neil Landau (DOE/BSO), Ed Ciprazo (UCB), Jack Salazar (EH&S), Paul Blodgett (EH&S).

Agenda:

- (1) Update on AHD database (Larry)
- (2) Discussion of proposed questions for campus JHQ

Minutes:

(1) AHD database has gone through two rounds of testing, one with the internal development group, and one with a few selected laser users. Only minor problems and glitches were reported and are being corrected. The database appears to be very effective, and should significantly streamline the AHD process. The next step is for Larry McLouth to meet with division safety coordinators to come up with a roll-out plan.

(2) Proposed changes to the laser questions on the LBNL JHQ (for employees working on-site and on campus) were discussed. The following versions were recommended by the committee and will be forwarded to Ted de Castro (LSO) and to Jack Salazar (who is updating the JHQ and negotiating a JHQ version for LBNL employees working on campus).

The purpose of the recommended changes is to (i) identify LBNL employees working with lasers on campus and insure that they receive the additional laser safety training required by the recent DOE Expectations on Laser Safety (ii) clarify and simplify the laser-safety question on the JHQ for employees working on-site.

Recommended Changes to the Laser Safety Questions on the JHQ to be used for LBNL Employees Working on Campus

- (1) Do/will you operate a laser or laser system (excluding laser printers or pointers) or work in an area where exposure to laser radiation is possible?
 - No – skip to next section
 - Yes - required:
 - UCB0280 - Laser Safety Training
- (2) Who is your primary employer?
 - (a) U.C. Berkeley
 - (b) Lawrence Berkeley National Lab
 - (c) both
 - (a) - skip to next section
- (3) Do you work with Class 3B or Class 4 lasers?
 - Yes - required (LBNL employees):
 - UCB 280 - Laser Safety (already required from #1)
 - EHS 281 - Laser Safety Retraining
 - EHS 288 - Laser Eye Exam
 - EHS 287 - Laser Lab Operational Observation*
 - Documentation of hand on training*

*(arrange with Ed Ciprazo and Ted de Castro)

Current Laser Safety Question on the JHQ to be used for LBNL Employees Working on Campus

- (1) Do/will you operate a laser or laser system (excluding laser printers or pointers) or work in an area where exposure to laser radiation is possible?
 - Yes - required:
 - UCB0280 - Laser Safety Training

Recommended Changes to the Laser Safety Questions on the LBNL-JHQ

- (1) Do you work in the vicinity of lasers?
No – skip to next section
Yes - required:
EHS 10 – Introduction to Environment Safety and Health at LBNL
- (2) Do you work with Class 3B or Class 4 lasers either on-site at LBNL, or off-site?
Yes - required:
EHS 280 - Laser Safety
EHS 281 - Laser Safety Retraining
EHS 288 - Laser Eye Exam
EHS 287 - Laser Lab Operational Observation
- (3) Are you responsible for the formal authorization of laser use in an LBNL laboratory (Laser Activity Hazard Document)?
Yes - required:
EHS 280 - Laser Safety
EHS 281 - Laser Safety Retraining
- (4) Do you supervise laser users?
Yes - required:
EHS 20 ~ ES&H for Supervisors and Managers (?)
EHS 24 ~ ES&H for Scientific Managers and Supervisors (?)
EHS 26 ~ ES&H for Mentors (?)
EHS 289 - laser safety awareness (unless EHS-280 is already required)

Current Laser Safety Questions on the LBNL-JHQ

- (1) Do you work with Class 3B or Class 4 lasers, supervise laser operators or are you a PI for a laser AHD?
(If Yes, skip question 2)
- (2) Do you work in the vicinity of lasers?
(If no, skip to next section.)
- (3) Do you operate or service a Class 3B or Class 4 laser or laser system?
Yes - required:
EHS0280 - Laser Safety
EHS0281 - Laser Safety Retraining
EHS0288 - Laser Eye Exam
- (4) Do you ONLY directly supervise a Class 3B or 4 laser user?
Yes - required:
EHS0280 - Laser Safety
EHS0281 - Laser Safety Retraining
- (5) Are you a laser AHD Principal Investigator?
Yes - required:
EHS0280 - Laser Safety
EHS0281 - Laser Safety Retraining
- (6) Do you perform or assist in alignments or servicing of class 3b or class 4 laser systems?
Yes - required:
EHS0287 - Laser Lab Operational Observation

Jack Salazar reported that most of the work on the JHQ for LBNL employees working on campus is complete. The next step is to develop a plan to communicate this and roll it out to various campus departments and LBNL divisions.

(3) Paul Blodgett reported on changes in EH&S support for laser safety, particularly with the recent departure of Gary Zeman. In the interim, the LSO will report to Paul in Industrial Hygiene. It is yet to be decided what will happen with the position vacated by Gary Zeman.

(4) Neil Landau clarified that the laser inventory database required by the DOE Laser Safety Expectations applies only to lasers on the LBNL site.